



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
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IAN A. BOWLES
Secretary

LAURIE BURT
Commissioner

November 5, 2007

TO: Municipal and Regional Authorities Officials

Subject: 2008 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey

Dear Municipal Official:

Every four years, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires the fifty states and various territories to complete a Clean Watersheds Needs Survey (the Survey). The purpose of the survey is to identify all of the wastewater and other clean water projects that are needed to maintain or correct deficiencies in the nation's water resources. The Survey outlines capital needs for United States communities over a twenty-year period.

Based on the survey results, the federal government, through EPA will apportion available monies to the states to fund Clean Water programs. These funds are provided to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to be loaned to communities through the State Revolving Fund Loan Program.

In previous years, the money Massachusetts received from the EPA was not based on the actual needs of the state. In the future, Congress plans to provide funding based on the capital needs identified in the 2008 Survey. If the Survey does not capture all of the actual project needs, then Massachusetts may not receive its fair share of Federal funding, which will result in less money being available, for clean water projects.

MassDEP is the agency designated to complete the survey in Massachusetts. MassDEP will need the assistance of all 351 cities, towns and regional authorities, if an accurate estimate of Massachusetts' capital needs is to be developed.

This survey is very important to Massachusetts and its cities, towns and regional authorities for the above-cited reasons. To reiterate the importance of the Survey:

- The survey will be used to determine the amount of money that Massachusetts receives and in turn - loans out to communities and authorities.

- An accurate representation of wastewater needs presents the decision makers at the Massachusetts State House and in Washington, D.C. with the information needed to make informed decisions with respect to infrastructure funding priorities.
- A fair and reasonable estimate of clean water capital needs provides a tool that can be used within the community, alerting local decision makers of the need to provide adequate rates or funding to address these critical projects.

Communities are at the forefront of knowing wastewater and other clean water needs. MassDEP will be looking to partner with you to make this survey a success. As a first step in this process, MassDEP asks that you complete and return the brief form attached to this correspondence. This form will allow MassDEP to establish appropriate contacts and to understand the level of wastewater planning your community has undertaken. This form may be completed on line and returned to MassDEP by email, fax or mail. The form will be on available on the MassDEP website at www.mass.gov/dep/water/wastewater/wastewat.htm; or by emailing a request to our contact person:

Mr. Patrick E. Rogers
MassDEP
One Winter Street, 6th Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Phone: (617) 292-5658
Fax: (617) 292-5850

e-mail: patrick.rogers@state.ma.us

I thank you in advance for your attention to this matter. On behalf of MassDEP, we look forward to working with you during 2008.

Sincerely:

Joseph E. Delaney
Deputy Director, Division of Municipal Services

cc: Community Information Form

**2008 Clean Watersheds Needs Survey
Community Wastewater/Stormwater Information**

COMMUNITY AND CONTACT INFORMATION		
Community Name:		
Primary Wastewater/Stormwater Contact:		
Title:		
Street/P.O. Box:		
City/Town:	State:	Zip Code:
Telephone: ()	Fax: ()	E-Mail:

ENGINEER OR CONSULTING FIRM	
If your community uses a consultant for wastewater planning and/or design, please provide the following:	
Company:	
Contact Person:	Telephone:

PLEASE CHECK THE BOX THAT BEST DESCRIBES THE WASTEWATER SYSTEM OF YOUR COMMUNITY	
Septic Systems Only	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wastewater Collection System Only	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wastewater Collection System and Septic Systems	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wastewater Collection System and Wastewater Treatment Plant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wastewater Collection System, Septic Systems and Wastewater Treatment Plant	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please Describe)	<input type="checkbox"/>

PLEASE CHECK THE BOX THAT BEST DESCRIBES THE STORMWATER SYSTEM OF YOUR COMMUNITY	
Combined Sewer System	<input type="checkbox"/>
Partial Combined Sewer and Partial Separate Storm Sewer System	<input type="checkbox"/>
Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (Please Describe)	<input type="checkbox"/>

HAS YOUR COMMUNITY CONDUCTED ANY OF THE FOLLOWING STUDIES?			
Wastewater Capital Improvement Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
Inflow/Infiltration Study/Sewer System Evaluation Survey	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
Wastewater Facilities Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
Stormwater Management Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
Septic System Inventory	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
CSO Long Term Control Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
NRCS Conservation and/or Farm Plans	<input type="checkbox"/> YES	<input type="checkbox"/> NO	DATE:
Other Wastewater Studies (Fill in Below if Applicable)			
			DATE:
			DATE:
			DATE: